

Together for Quality

Alabama Medicaid Agency

STATUS REPORT

December 12, 2007

NOTE: Indicates information shared at the December meeting.

I. Implementation Update

ACS has completed its second onsite visit. Work has included meeting with Agency staff, IMMprint staff, BCBS programmers, Dept. of Senior Services staff and visiting two pilot sites to discuss interface issues. ACS continues to work towards tailoring the CyberAccess product to meet Alabama's needs. This is being done with the input of the various workgroups, primarily the Clinical workgroup. Prior to coming to Alabama, ACS hosted a web conference with clinical workgroup members to review and comment on the latest screen designs. Workgroup members suggested a summary screen as the initial screen that will allow practitioners to see a compilation of patient information at a glance with the ability to look at other screens for specific information such as prescription and immunization details, etc.

The design phase will be finalized by January 15th so that programmers can take all the comments and begin the behind the scenes programming. During January and February, work will focus on the provider deployment and training plan, working with interfacing with the selected EHR systems, and addressing privacy and security issues.

Stakeholders are encouraged to continue providing feedback as we move towards implementation. Even though there will be deadline dates for phases of the project, keep in mind that this is a pilot. If it is something that we cannot do in phase one, it may be something that can be done in phase two. Throughout this project, we will be testing and retesting what works.

III. Finance Workgroup

The Finance Workgroup continues to work with the policy workgroup exploring governance models and long term sustainability.

The Finance Workgroup continues to welcome any comments, suggestions, or recommendations other Stakeholder Council members may have related to the task of HIE governance models and long term sustainability.

Report Submitted by Agency Co-Chair: Kim Bath

IV. Privacy Workgroup

NOTE: As reported earlier, this group, in conjunction with ACS, will start working on the issues identified thus far regarding security, consent and privacy. The Agency is compiling a list of issues raised as we work with the various entities that will be using the ECST. Through our work with the National Association of State Medicaid Directors (NASMD), the Agency is able to pull from a variety of resources and other states who have either dealt with these issues or are in the process of addressing them as well.

Report submitted by Agency Co-Chair: Bill Butler

V. Policy

The Policy Workgroup has continued to develop a proposal for long term governance and financial sustainability for health information exchange in the state. A subset of the Policy workgroup met and developed a strategy for reaching the business community. This proposal will be presented at the next Stakeholder Council meeting.

NOTE: The proposal dealt with involving the business community in a summit in early 2008 to solicit their opinion about what would make TFQ valuable to them. The purpose is to have this type input before proceeding with a governance model.

Report submitted by Agency Co-Chair: Kathy Hall; Community Co-Chair: Rosemary Blackmon

VI. Clinical Workgroup

During the month of November, the Clinical Workgroup held no scheduled meetings but used the email group list to provide several items for review and comment. Several internal meetings were held concerning how the stratified data would be obtained and to discuss an external evaluation component for the entire project. The provider visits for Pike and Bullock

counties were completed with mostly positive results. One large provider group in Pike remains uncommitted. In addition, Agency and ADPH staffs have been working to identify tools and resources for the care coordination component. The monthly surveys which are a part of the health department's ACORN system were finalized with the help of the Clinical Workgroup and submitted for incorporation into the ADPH system.

Tools for use by the care coordinators were identified and sent to the Clinical Workgroup on December 5th for a decision on whether the tools identified could be used by the care coordinators. A called meeting was scheduled for December 6th for review of changes made to ECST, for review of stratification and patient identification process and format and to finalize the tools for use by the care coordinators.

NOTE: The pilot will test two approaches: care management, the Electronic Clinical Support Tool and/or a combination of the two. Implementation of asthma care management only is scheduled for February 1, 2008, in Bullock and Pike counties. Diabetes care management is scheduled to begin March 1st in these two counties as well. As reported, initial provider visits have been made in these two counties to further explain TFQ and the goals of care management. In mid-January, follow-up visits will be conducted with the providers that have agreed to participate. During these visits, copies of the protocols and educational materials will be furnished to the provider. Additionally, the provider will be given a list of those patients identified by the Agency for enrollment into the care management program. Patient selection will be determined by a risk stratification of those patients not meeting the goals set forth by the clinical workgroup. The Agency is working with the University of South Alabama Dept. of Informatics for patient stratification/selection.

Report submitted by Agency Co-chair Dr. Mary G. McIntyre
Additional Co-chairs Drs. Christine Ritchie and John Searcy

VII. Technical Workgroup

As of today, the Technical Workgroup has met all required objectives in accordance with our assigned list of tasks. The Technical Workgroup continues to hold weekly conference calls each **Wednesday at 2:00 p.m.** to discuss and resolve issues. However, TFQ Technical Workgroup members are

not calling in for the conference call. Perhaps, the Technical Workgroup members may feel that they have accomplished their primary objectives; however, I have not received any notification from any of the Technical Workgroup members requesting that they be removed from the group.

The BizTalk middleware Enterprise Service Bus (EBS) solution hardware and software are in the process of being purchased and installed by ISD. Also, the Agency is purchasing the required hardware and software cited by ACS needed to implement TFQ.

According to our group, at this time, we do not see a need to refocus or re-prioritize any task.

Report Submitted by Agency Co-Chair: Lee Maddox

VII. General

It was decided that for 2008, the Stakeholder group would hold quarterly meetings. The workgroups will continue to meet on their individually decided schedules. The dates are as follows and are being posted to the Agency calendar:

April 9th 1 pm

July 9th 1pm

October 8th 1 pm

December 10th 1pm

Status reports will be posted to the Web the 1st of each month beginning with February 2008.

